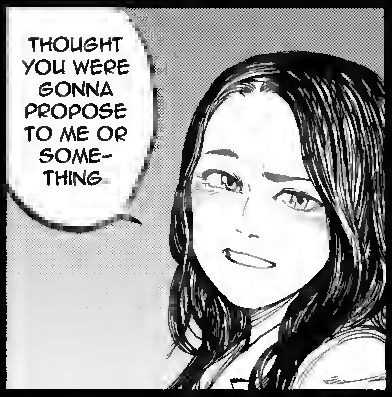
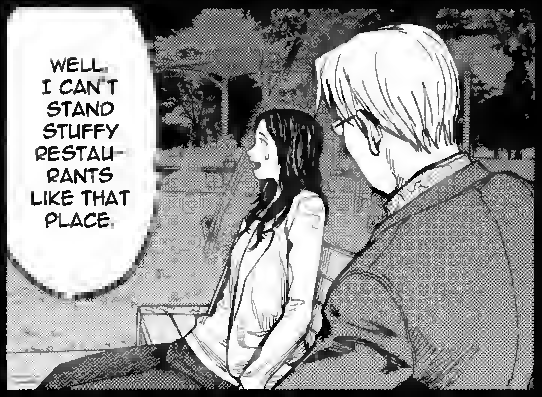
I EVEN MADE A RESERVA-TION
WHAT'S WRONG?


THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA PROPOSE TO ME OR SOME-THING.


WELL, I CAN'T STAND STUFFY RESTAU-RANTS LIKE THAT PLACE.

HA HA HA! JUST KID-DING.
EVEN I WOULDN'T WANT THAT.

DO IT SOME-WHERE ROUGH, OKAY? LIKE A BEEF BOWL SHOP?

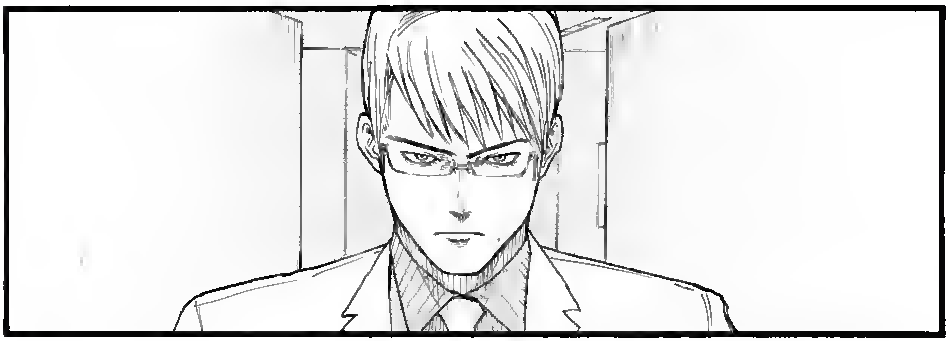
O-H.
IF YOU ARE GOING TO PRO-POSE TO ME.

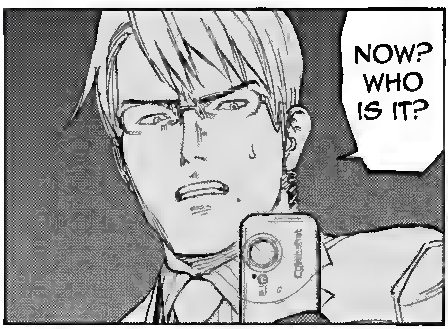
WHAT ABOUT HERE?
AI.
I KNOW THESE ARE VERY ORDINARY WORDS.
BUT THIS IS HOW I FEEL.

I...
...PROM-ISE YOU.
I WILL PROTECT YOU UNTIL THE DAY YOU DIE.
NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES.

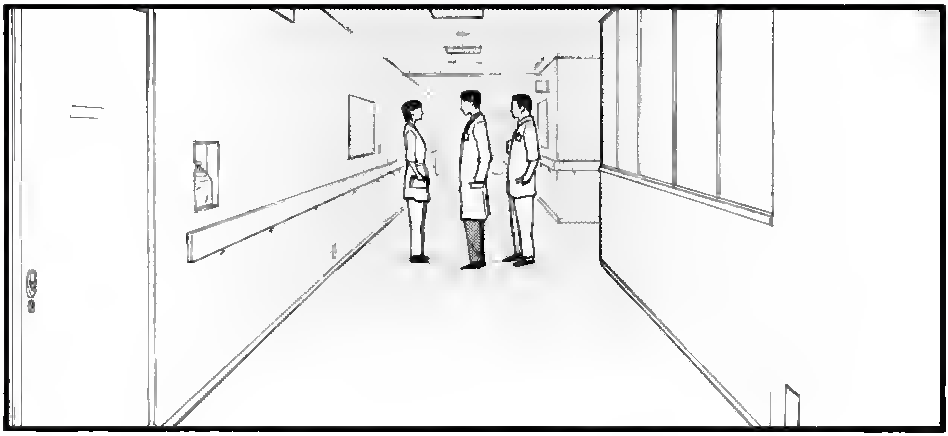
File 45: U & I

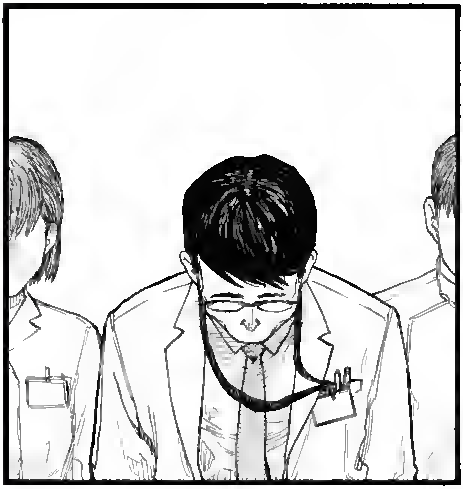
桜総合病院
Sakura General Hospital

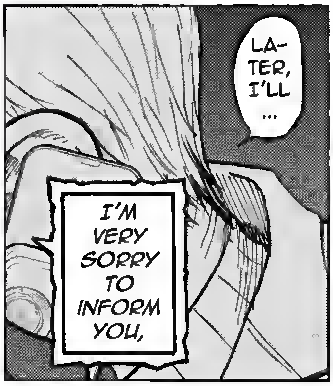


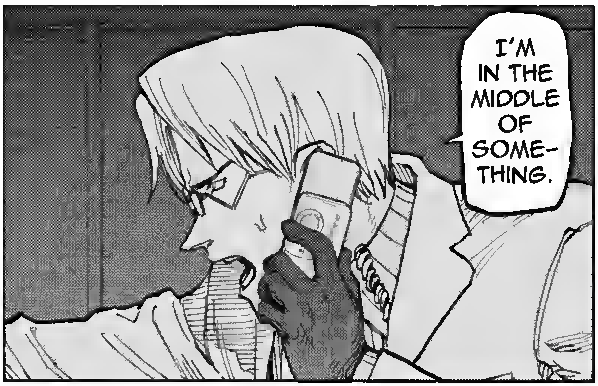

NOW? WHO IS IT?

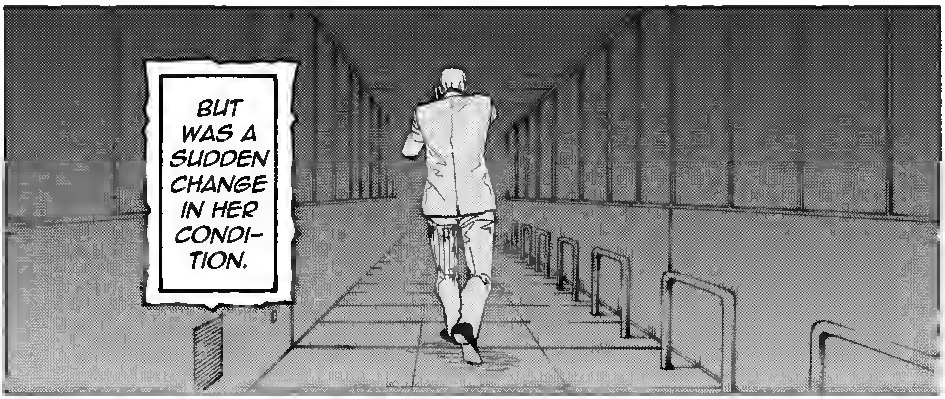
BRRRR

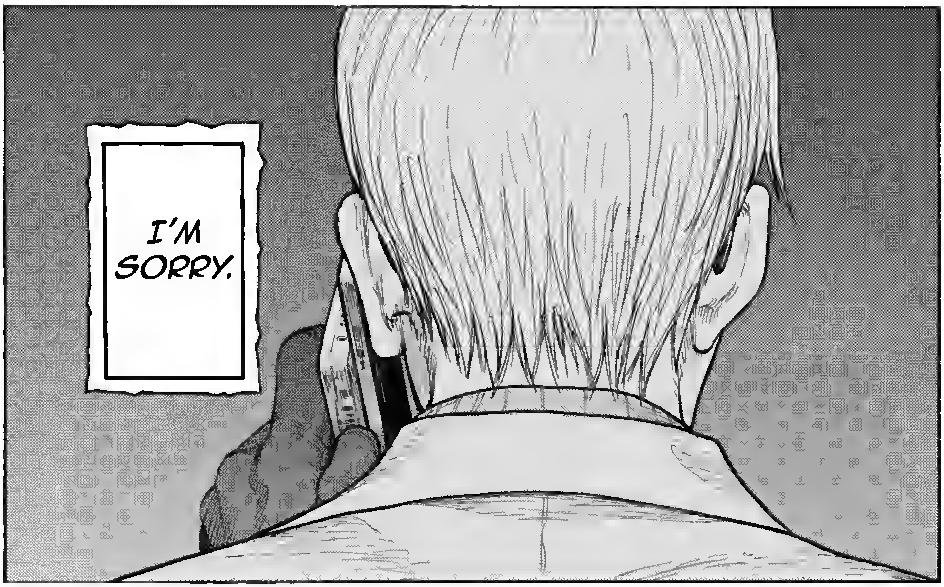


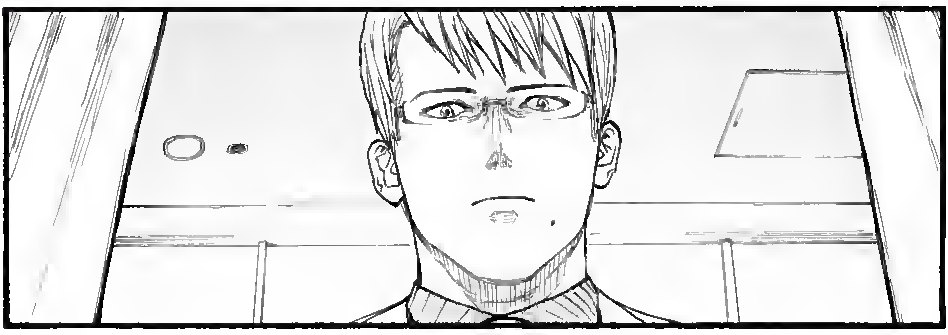



I'M VERY SORRY TO INFORM YOU,
LA-TER, I'LL ...

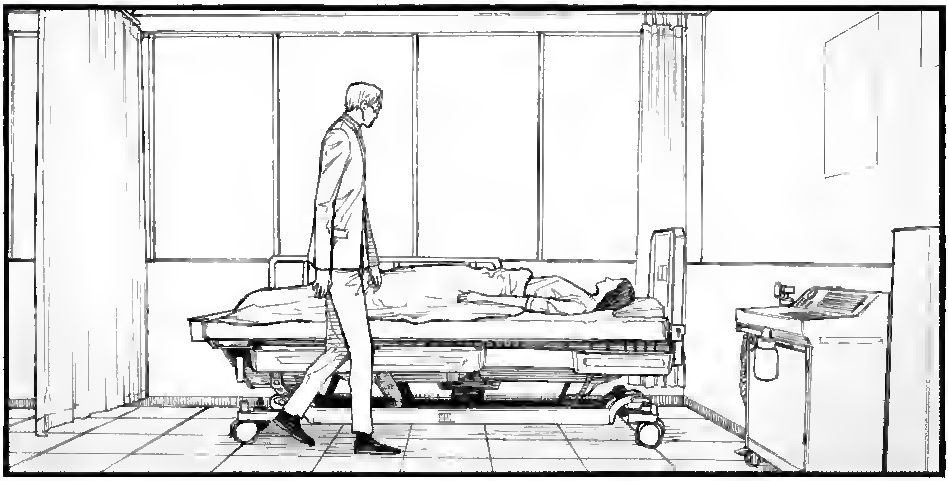

I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF SOME-THING.

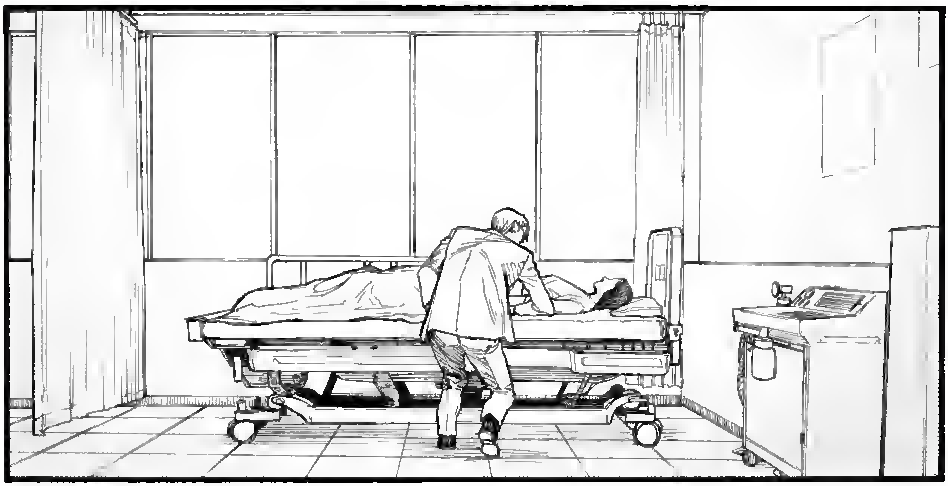

BUT WAS A SUDDEN CHANGE IN HER CONDI-TION.

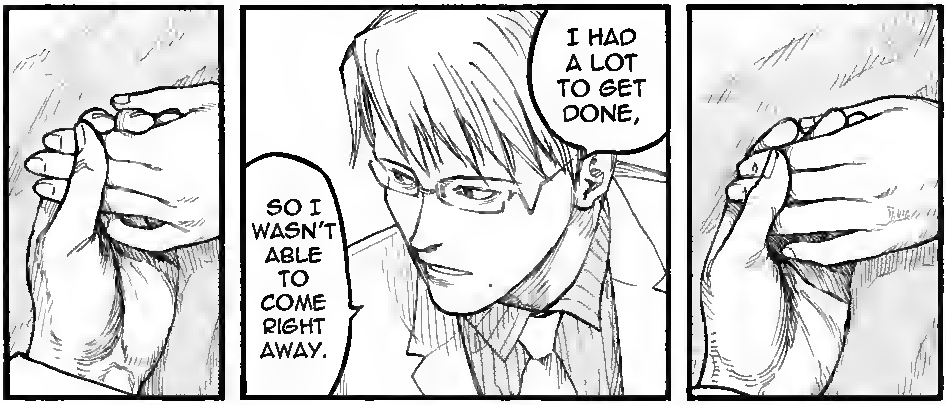

I'M SORRY.

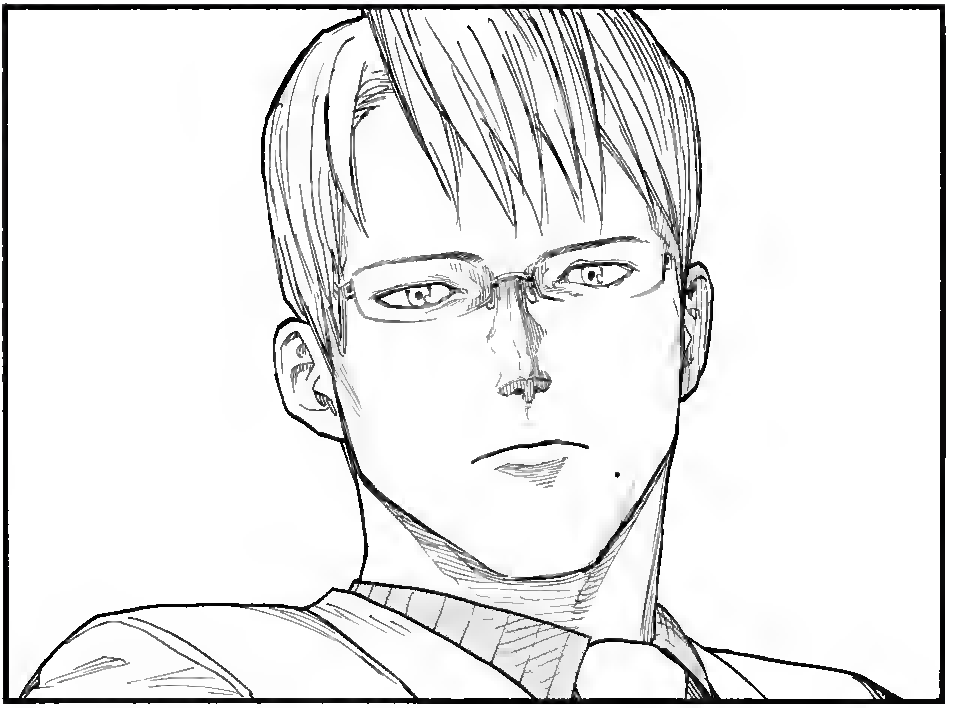


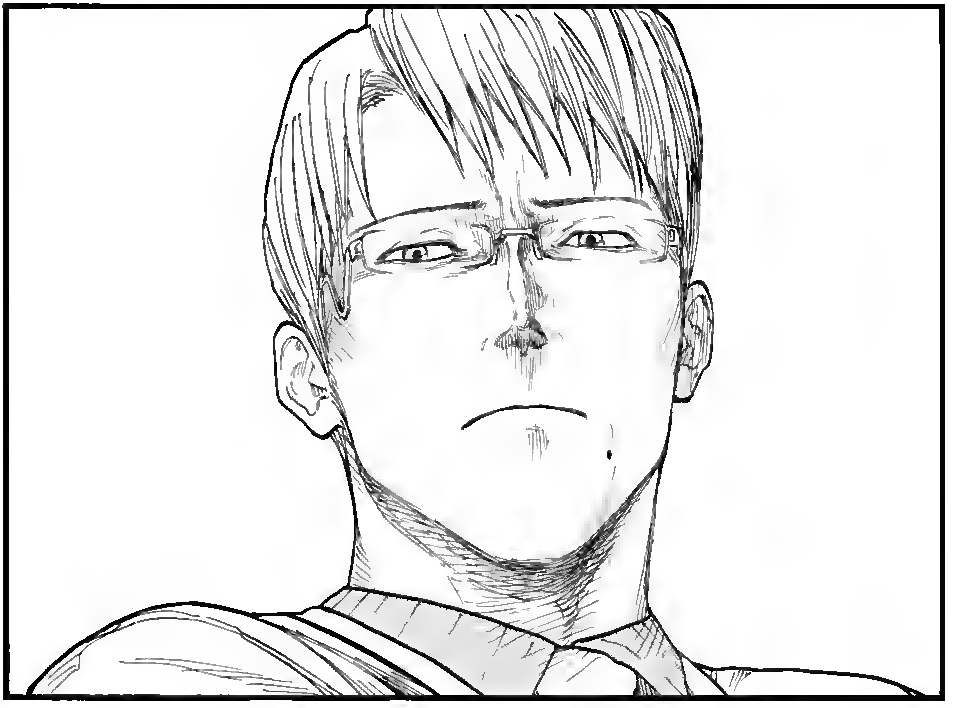
...THAT I'M LATE
SORRY...

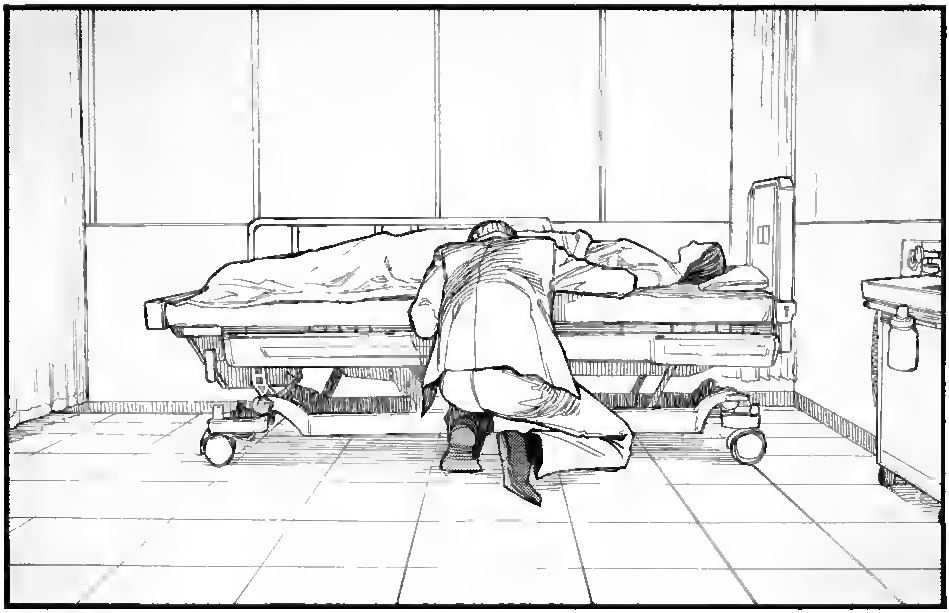


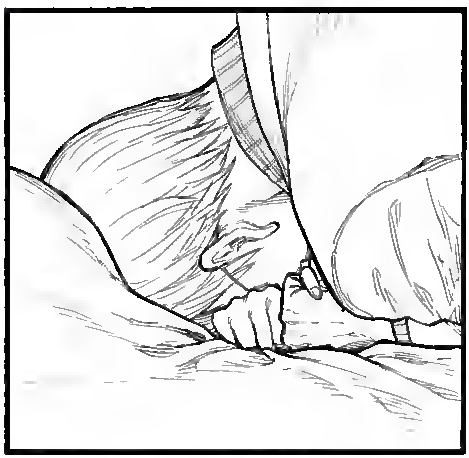


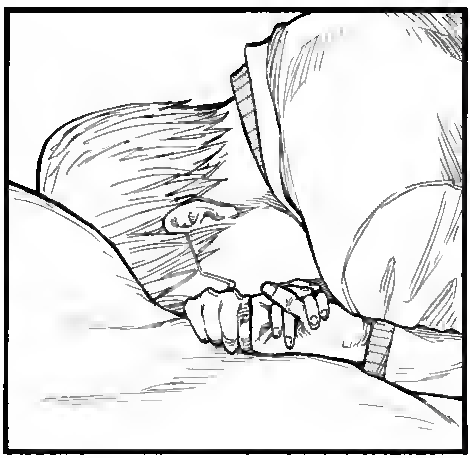

I HAD A LOT TO GET DONE,
SO I WASN'T ABLE TO COME RIGHT AWAY.

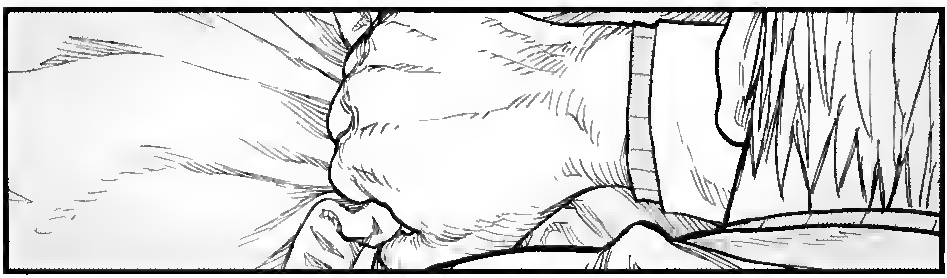


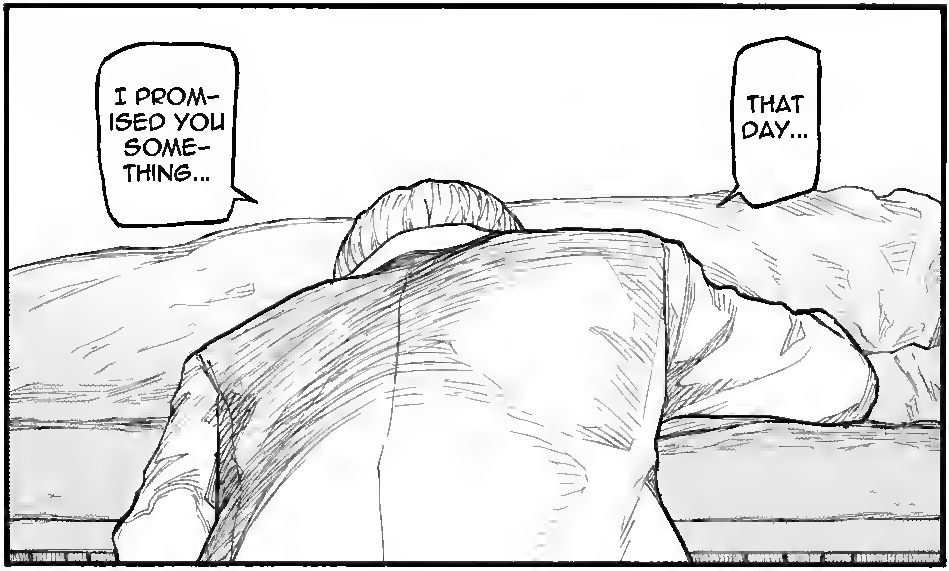


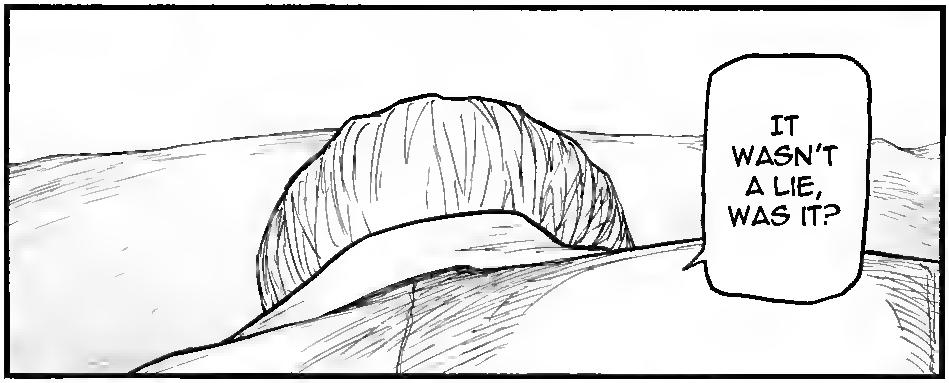




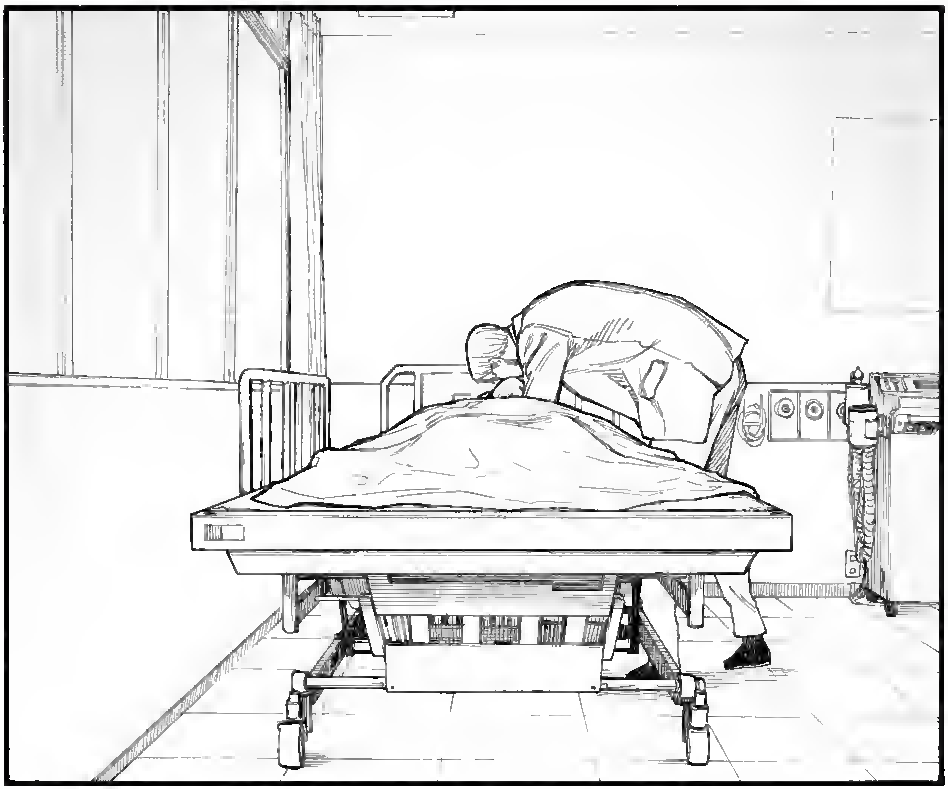


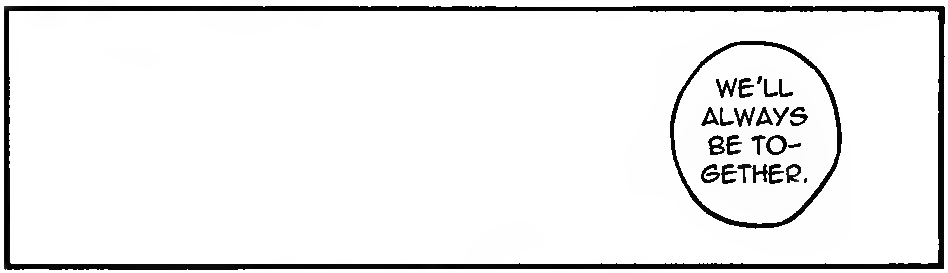


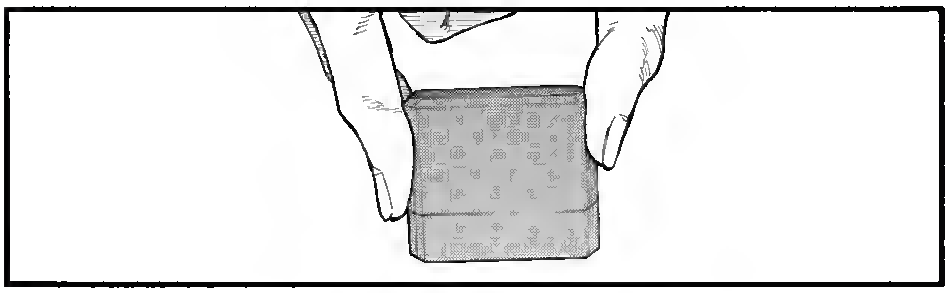

I PROM-
ISED YOU
SOME-
THING...
THAT
DAY...

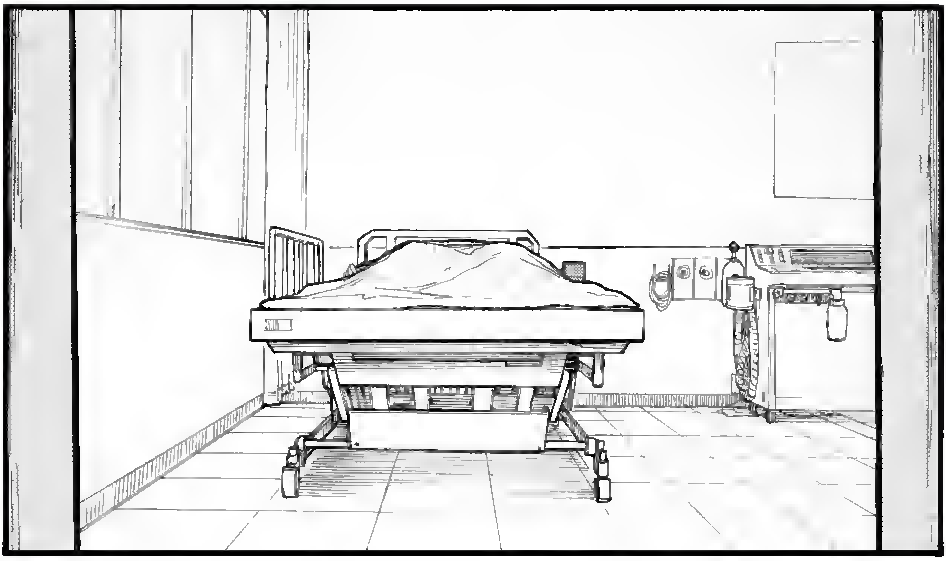

IT
WASN'T
A LIE,
WAS IT?

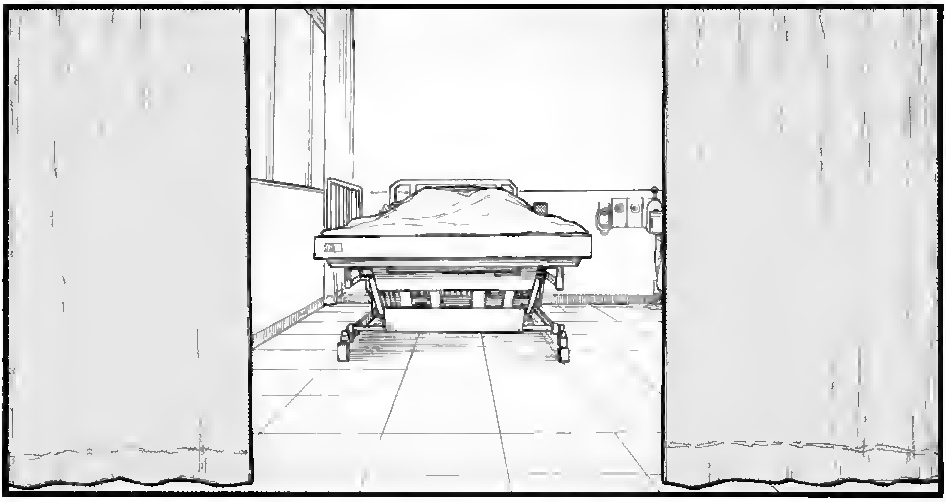
AI...
I WISH I COULD BE HERE FOREVER.
BUT I HAVE TO GO...
I REALLY HAVE...
I'VE DONE A LOT OF THINGS...
...THAT WOULD MAKE YOU ANGRY.
I'M GOING TO SETTLE IT.




WE'LL ALWAYS BE TO-GETHER.



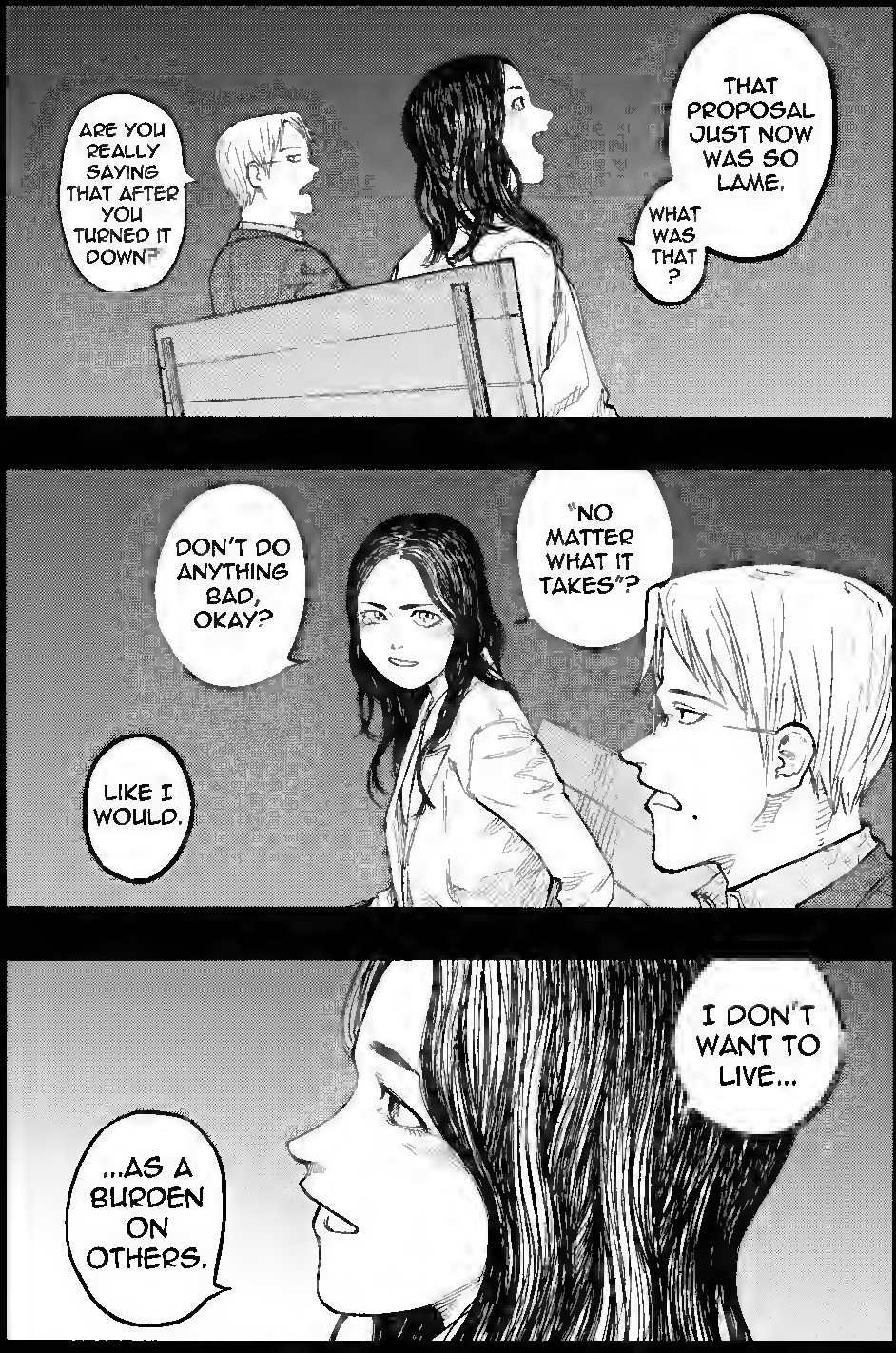




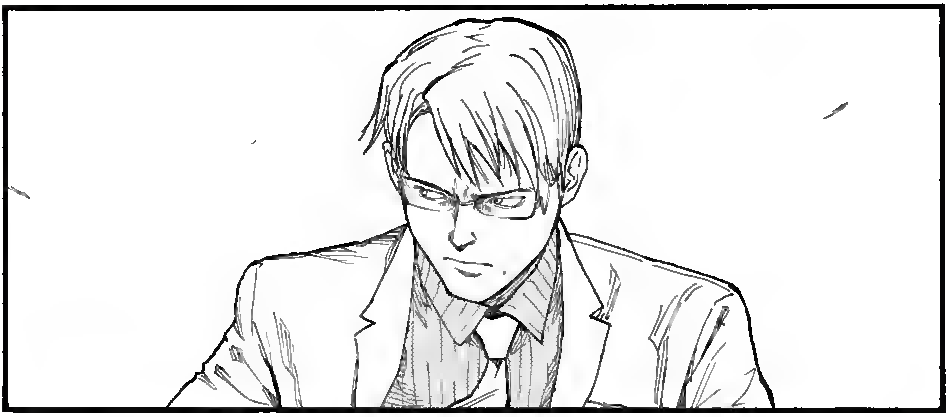
LET'S GET MAR-RIED.

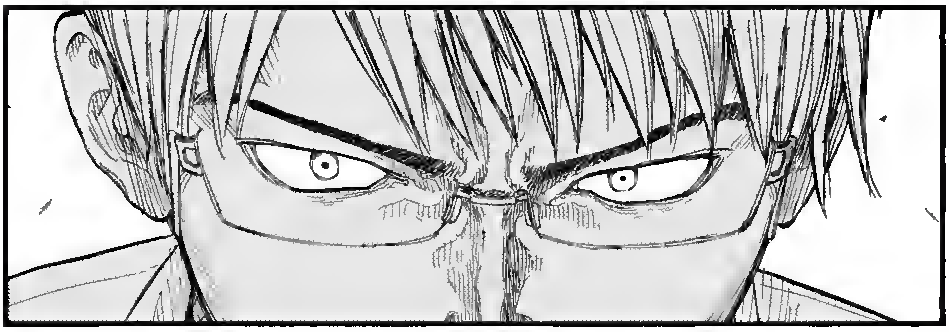
SOR-
RY,
YUU.
WHA
?
I...
CAN'T
YET.
I NEED TO
REPAY MY
PARENTS'
DEBTS
MYSELF
FIRST.

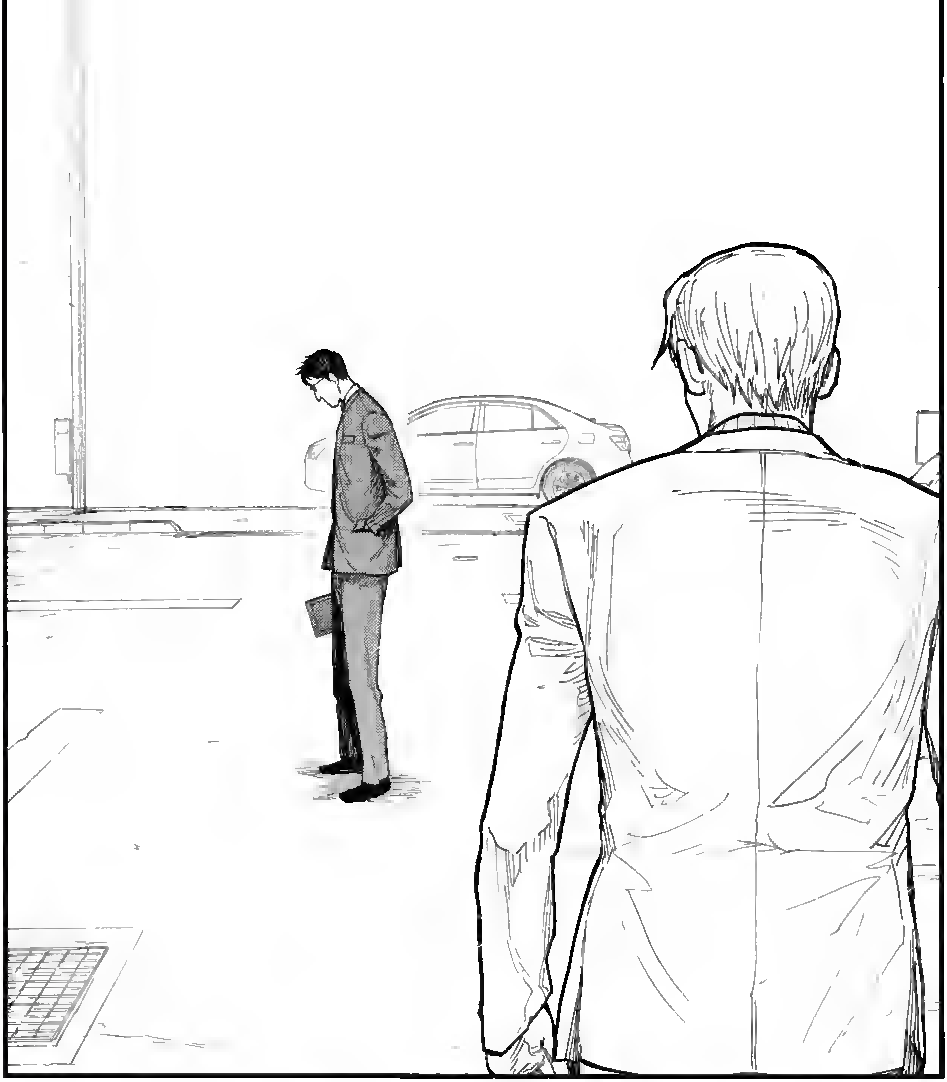
I'M...
BEING SO SELFISH ABOUT THIS.
I'M SOR-RY.
WHY ?
I DON'T WANT ANYONE TELLING ME...
THAT I GOT MARRIED TO YOU FOR THE MONEY!
ALL RIGHT.

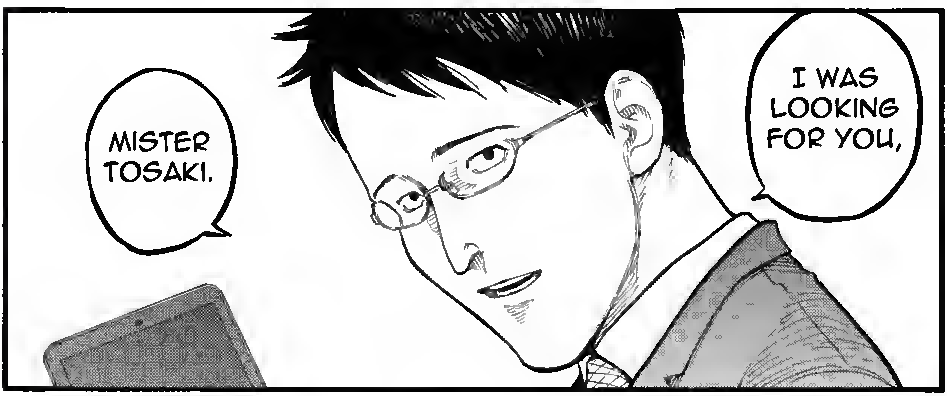

ARE YOU REALLY SAYING THAT AFTER YOU TURNED IT DOWN?
THAT PROPOSAL JUST NOW WAS SO LAME.
WHAT WAS THAT?
DON'T DO ANYTHING BAD, OKAY?
"NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES"?
LIKE I WOULD.
I DON'T WANT TO LIVE...
...AS A BURDEN ON OTHERS.

桜総合病院
Sakura Genaral Hospital



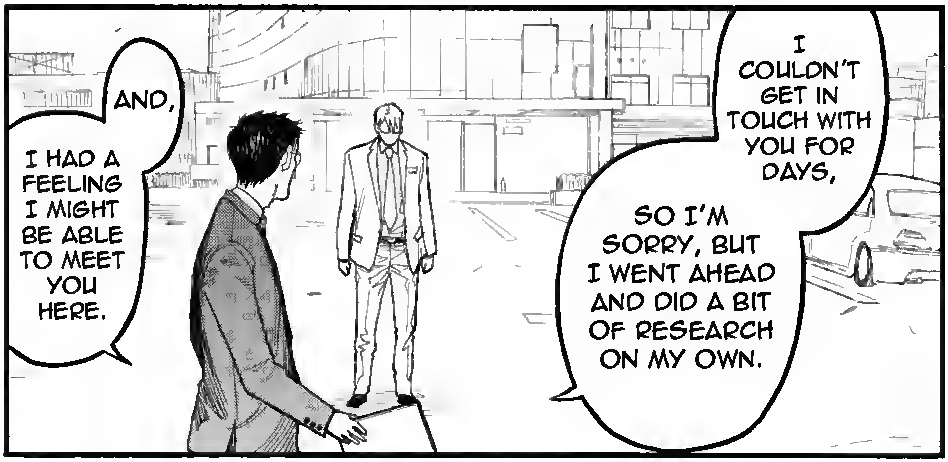




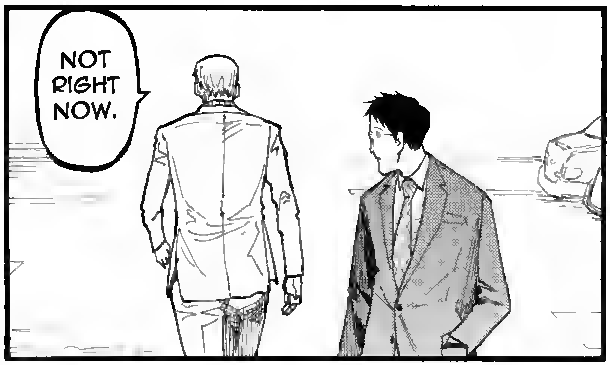

I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU,
MISTER TOSAKI.

I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ...
... ABOUT THE DATE OF THE MEET-ING WITH SATO.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

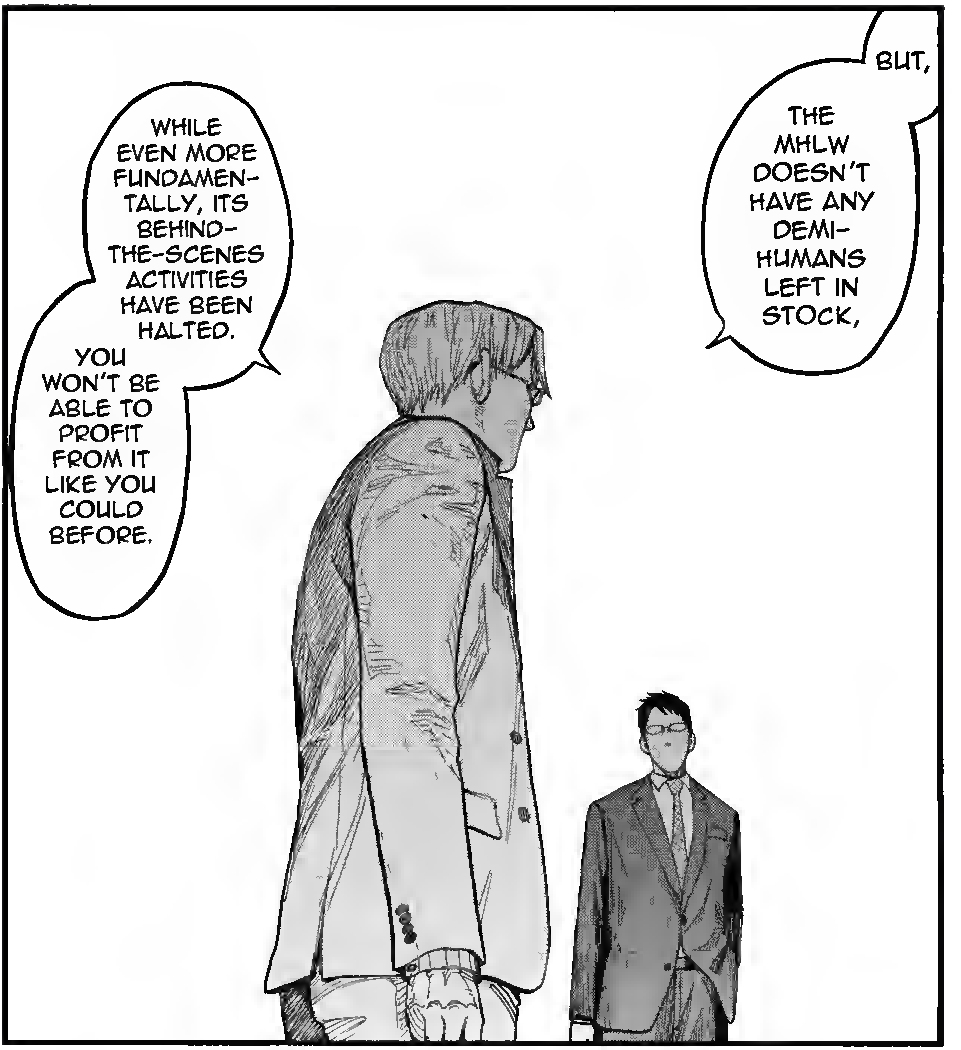

I COULDN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU FOR DAYS,
SO I'M SORRY, BUT I WENT AHEAD AND DID A BIT OF RESEARCH ON MY OWN.
AND,
I HAD A FEELING I MIGHT BE ABLE TO MEET YOU HERE.

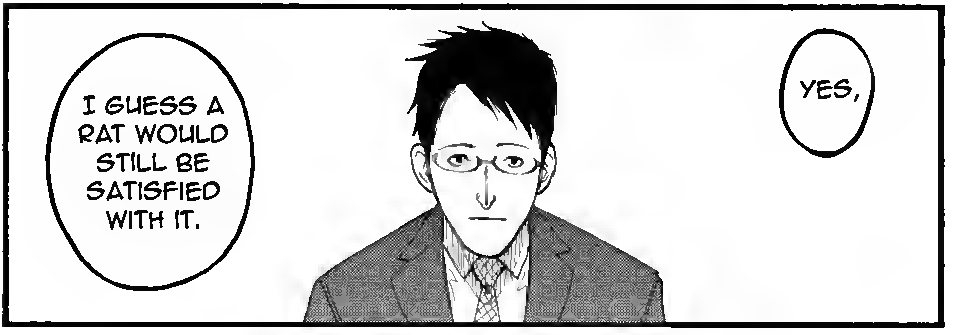
NOT RIGHT NOW.


NOT RIGHT NOW.

DID SHE PASS AWAY?
THIS WOMAN WHOSE MEDICAL FEES YOU WERE TAKING CARE OF.
WHICH MEANS ...
THERE'S NO POINT IN STAY-ING PUT IN YOUR POST.
IS THERE?
THIS WOULD BE A GOOD STOPPING POINT.

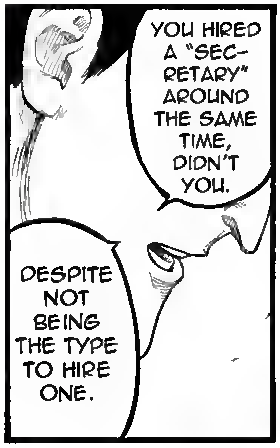
IT WOULD SAVE ME A LOT OF WORK, TOO.
IT'D BE A LOT EASIER.
PLEASE, JUST VACATE THE POSITION TO ME.
THAT WAY ...
I'LL GIVE YOU MY POST WHENEVER YOU WANT IT.


BUT,
THE MHLW DOESN'T HAVE ANY DEMI-HUMANS LEFT IN STOCK,
WHILE EVEN MORE FUNDAMENTALLY, ITS BEHIND-THE-SCENES ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN HALTED.
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PROFIT FROM IT LIKE YOU COULD BEFORE.

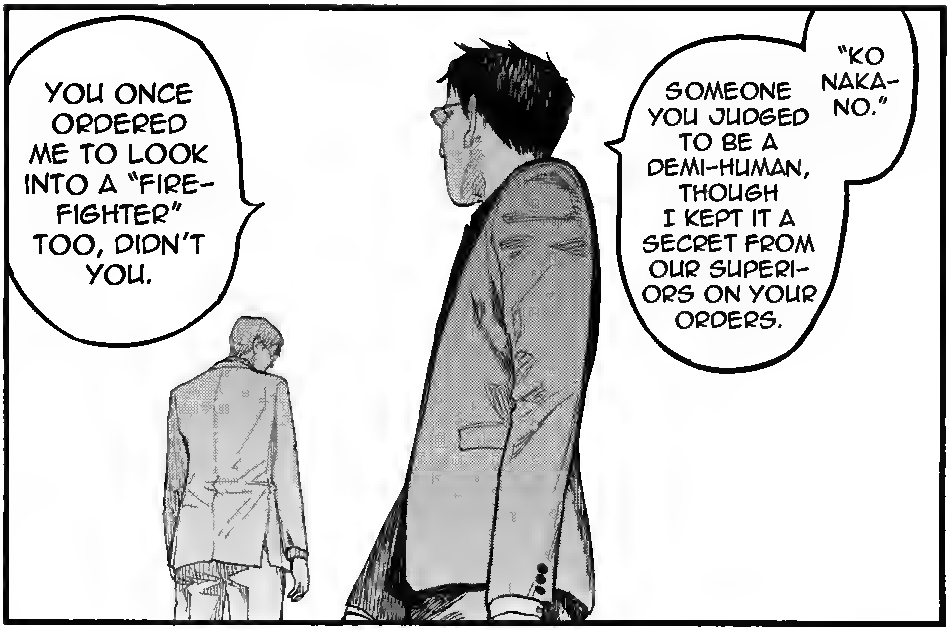

YES,
I GUESS A RAT WOULD STILL BE SATISFIED WITH IT.

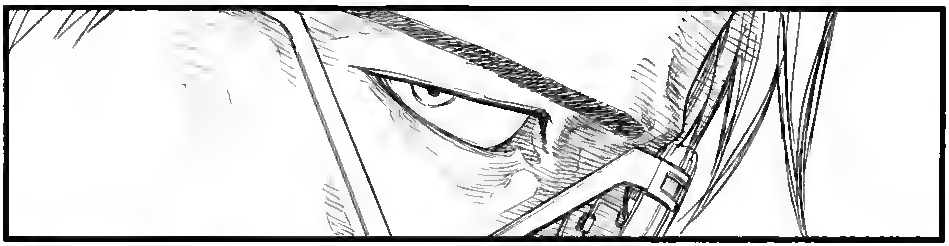
IF YOU'RE SO DES-PERATE FOR MY LEFT-OVERS,
THEN ENJOY.

"YOKO TAI-NAKA."

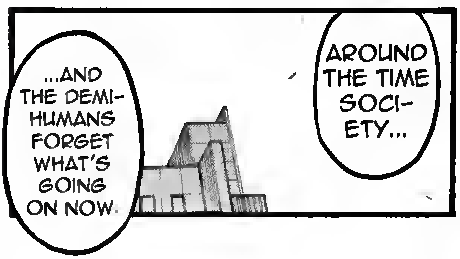

YOU HIRED A "SEC-RETARY" AROUND THE SAME TIME, DIDN'T YOU.
DESPITE NOT BEING THE TYPE TO HIRE ONE.

A NAME I FOUND ON THE UNCON-FIRMED DEMI-HUMANS LIST.
SHE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN AS-SIGNED TO YOU.
"DE-CEAS-ED," I SEE..

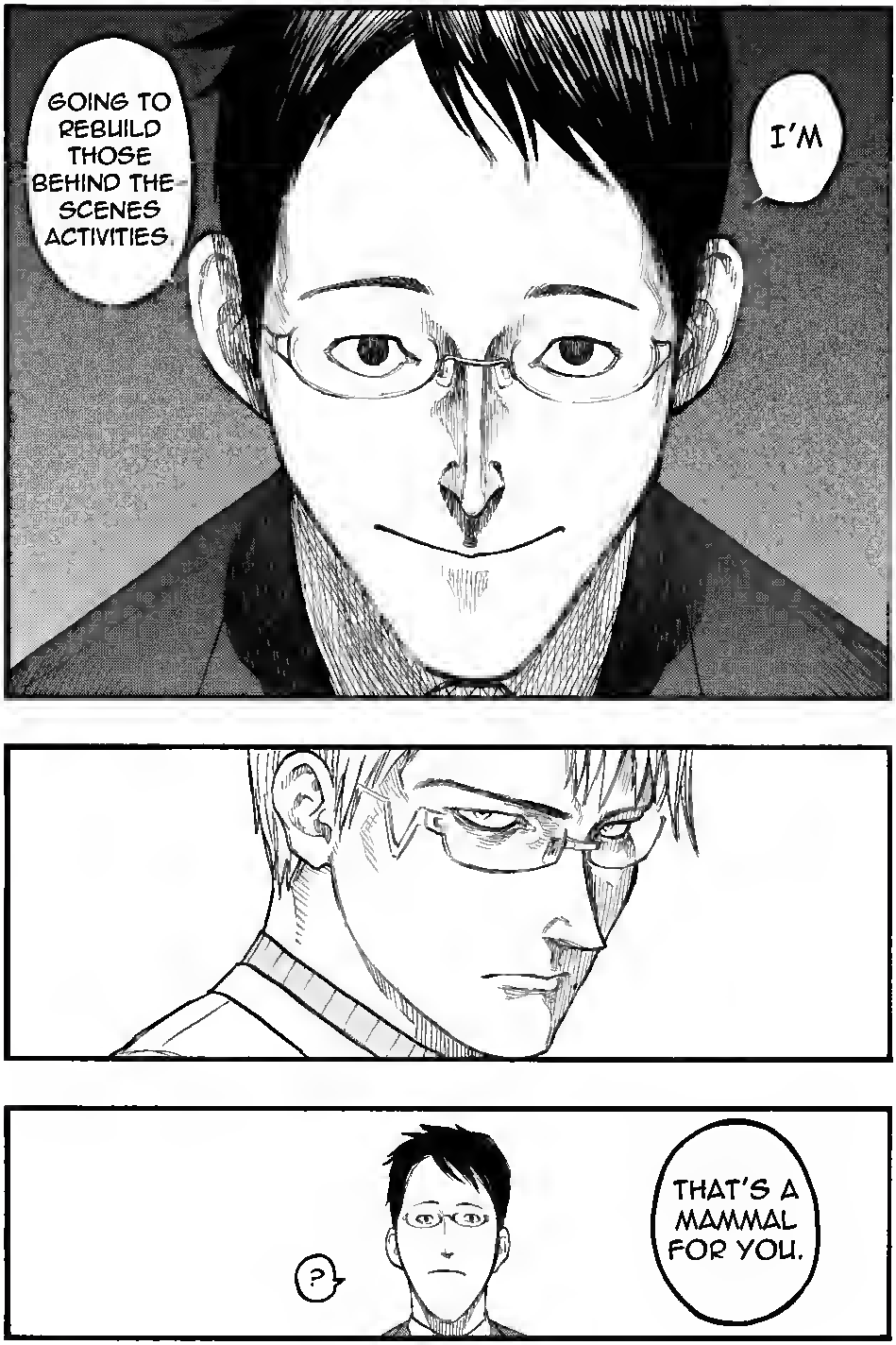

"KO NAKA-NO."
SOMEONE YOU JUDGED TO BE A DEMI-HUMAN, THOUGH I KEPT IT A SECRET FROM OUR SUPERI-ORS ON YOUR ORDERS.
YOU ONCE ORDERED ME TO LOOK INTO A "FIRE-FIGHTER" TOO, DIDN'T YOU.



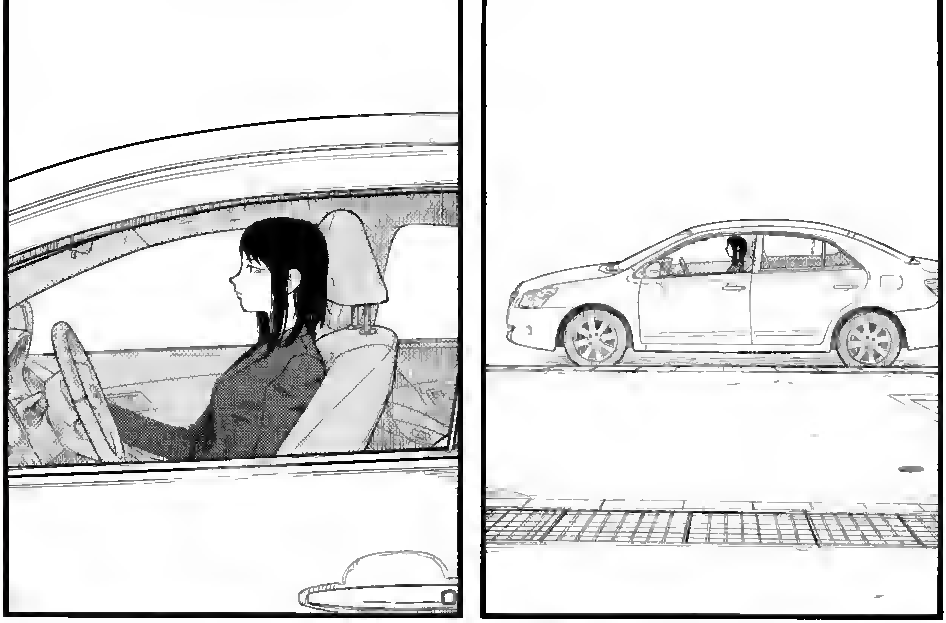
NOT TOMOR-ROW OR THE DAY AFTER.
A LITTLE PAST THAT.


AROUND THE TIME SOCI-ETY...
...AND THE DEMI-HUMANS FORGET WHAT'S GOING ON NOW.

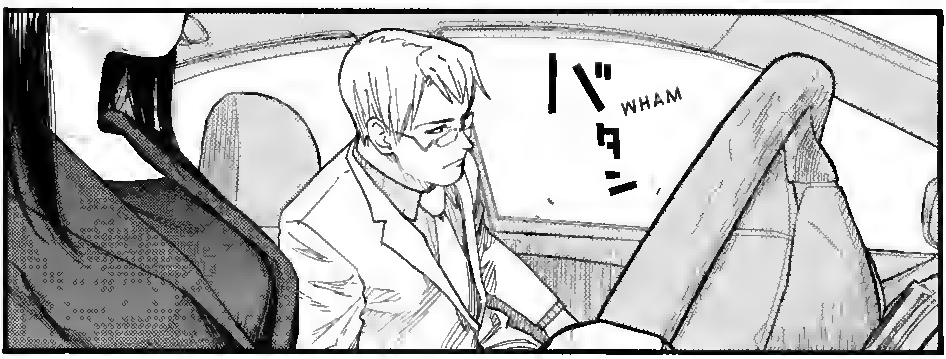
I PROMISE YOU, I'M GOING TO BE SOMEONE IMPORT-ANT.

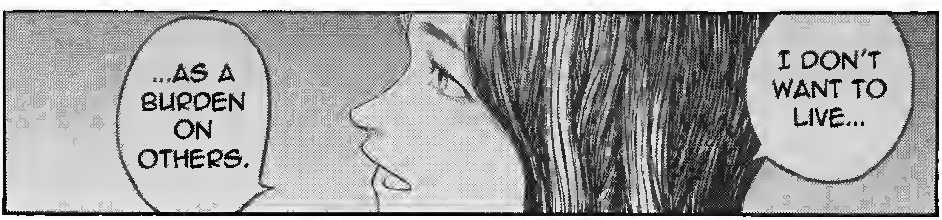

I'M
GOING TO REBUILD THOSE BEHIND THE SCENES ACTIVITIES.
?
THAT'S A MAMMAL FOR YOU.

SO EVEN RATS CAN DREAM.

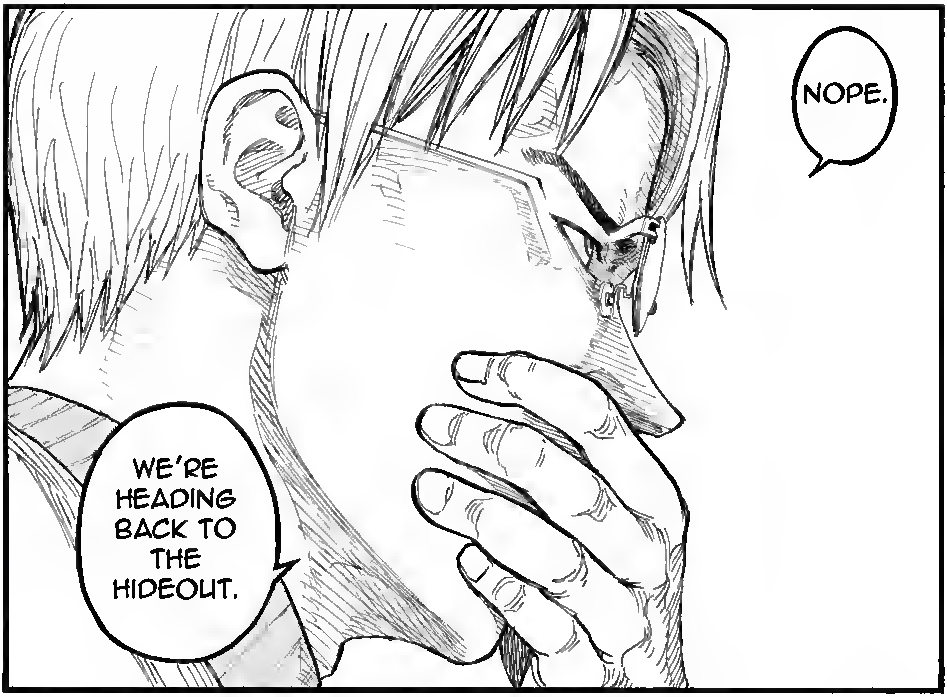


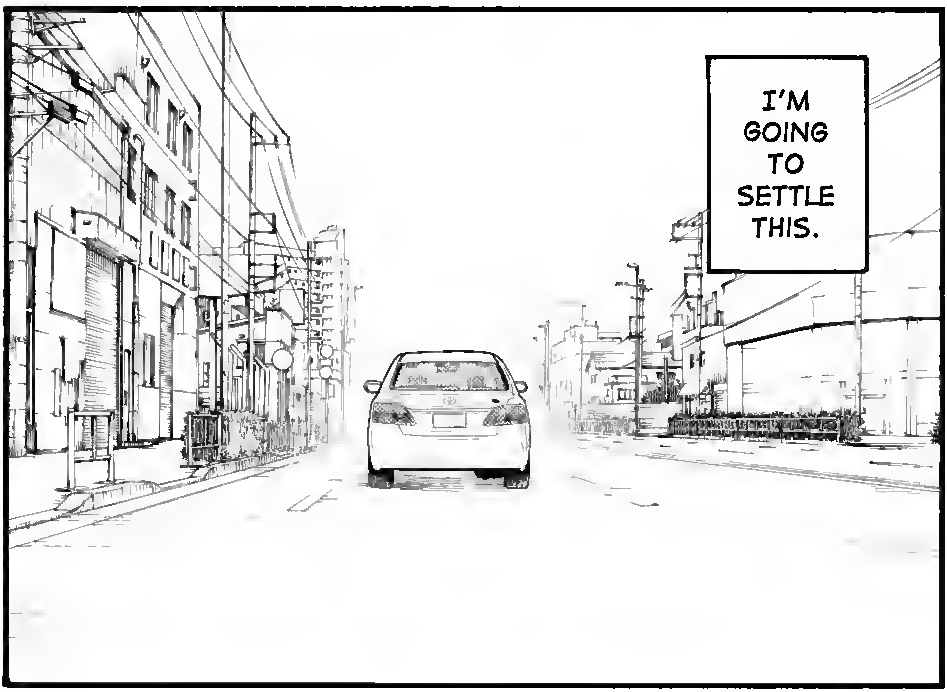
DON'T DO ANYTHING BAD, OKAY?
"NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES"?


WHAM

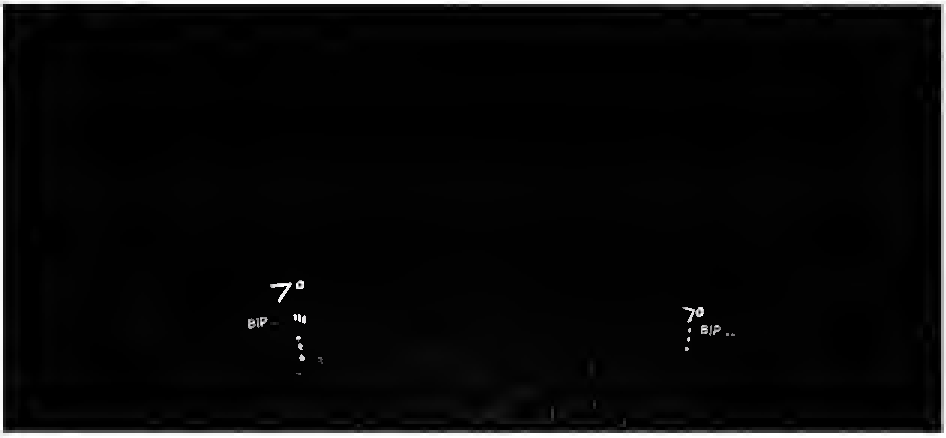

...AS A BURDEN ON OTHERS.
I DON'T WANT TO LIVE...

YOU'RE NOT STOPPING YET, ARE YOU?
KLUNK
ガコ


NOPE.
WE'RE HEADING BACK TO THE HIDEOUT.


I'M GOING TO SETTLE THIS.

BIP...
BIP...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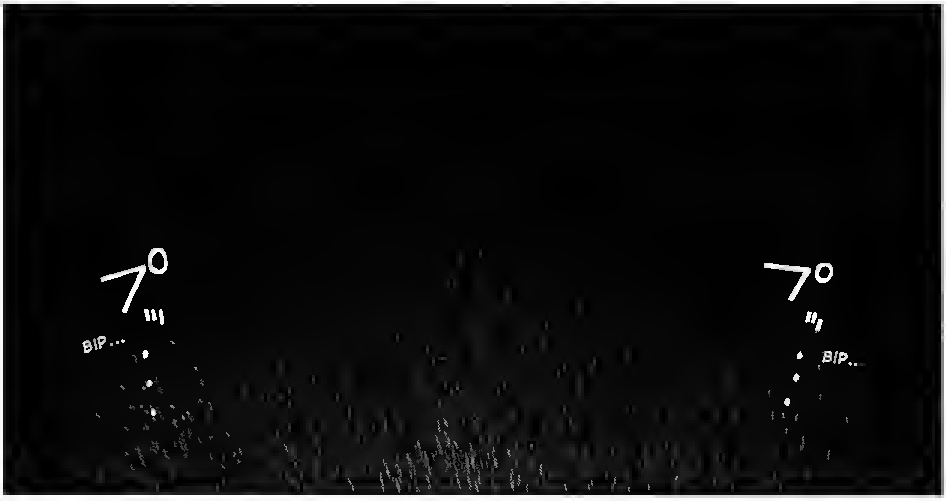
BIP...


BIP...
BIP...

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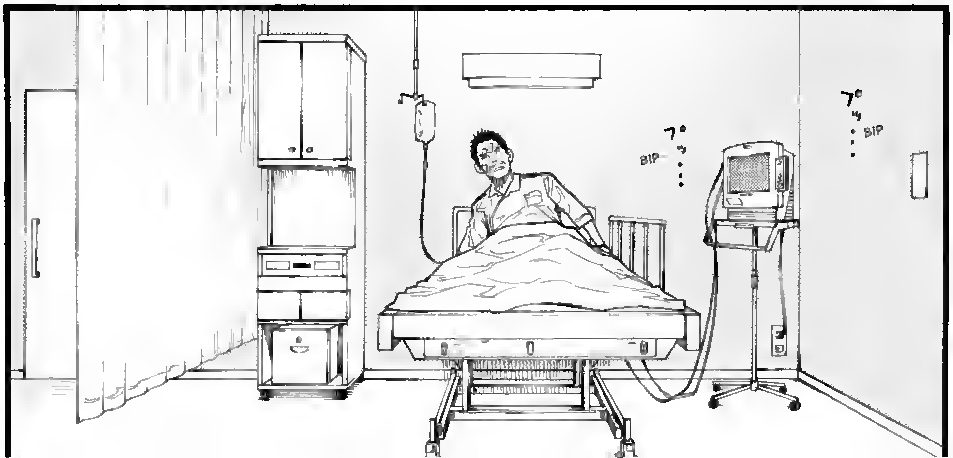
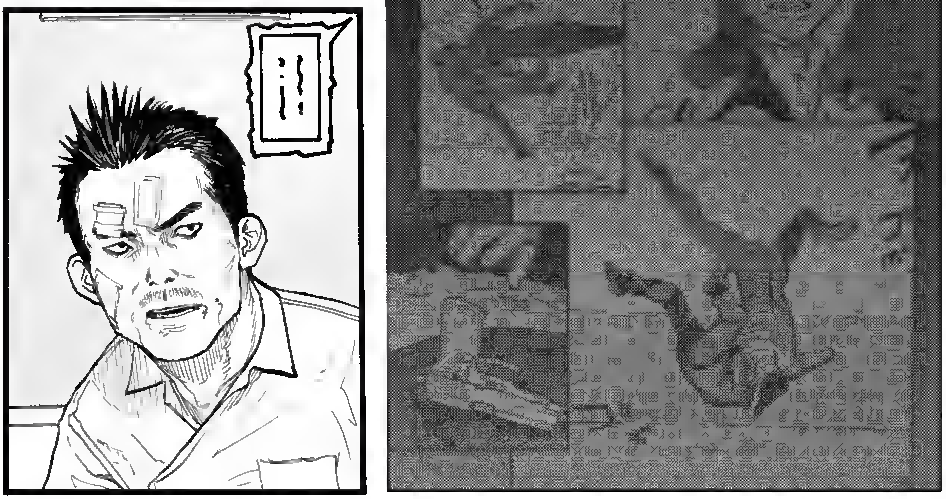

ピッ…
ピッ…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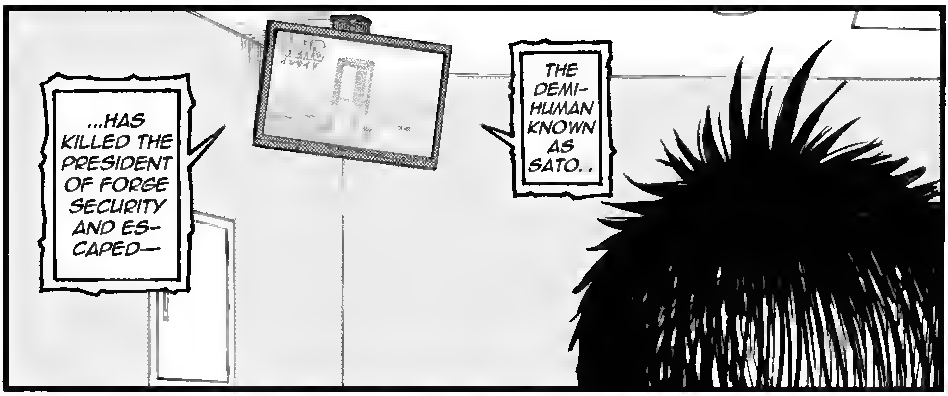
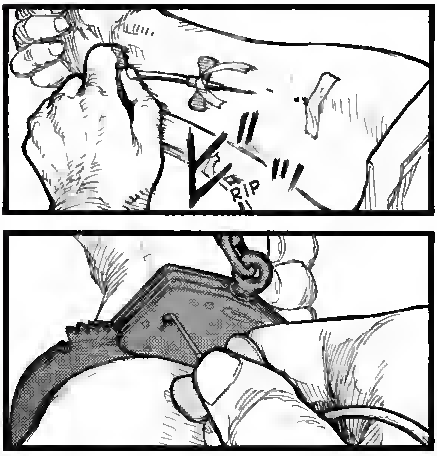

...HAS KILLED THE PRESIDENT OF FORCE SECURITY AND ES-CAPED—
THE DEMI-HUMAN KNOWN AS SATO..


RIP

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GA-CHAK